

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets provide formal drawings for Figs. 1-5.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (3)

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 6-10 have been added. The specification has been amended so that the Brief Description of the Drawings, as originally recited on page 20 is now recited on page 5 of the specification. Also, the Abstract has been amended to remove reference numbers found therein and to shorten the length of the Abstract to 150 words or less. Further, formal replacement sheets are provided for Figs. 1-5. No new matter has been added.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Armbruster, U.S. Patent No. 4,370,155. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' invention of claim 1 calls for an Air clean apparatus comprising an air intake intended to be located at a lower position of a corner of a room and an air outlet intended to be located at an upper position of the corner of the room, and at least a filter and a blower both inside the Air clean apparatus, characterized in that, when the Air clean apparatus is installed, a given quantity of circulating blowing air, which is decided according to the height from the floor underneath the air intake and the underside open area determined on the basis of particles of the maximum size to be eliminated at the air intake. Armbruster fails to disclose these features.

Contrary to the Office Action assertion, Armbruster does not disclose or suggest an air outlet intended to be located at an upper position of the corner of the room. In Armbruster, the vertical elongated slots 54, 56 extend from above base 16 to a position intermediate floor 20 and the ceiling of the room (col. 3, lines 54-64; Fig. 2). As Armbruster describes, the length of each slot 54, 56 varies depending upon the vertical length of air chamber 52 (col. 3, lines 64-66). Accordingly, Armbruster's vertical elongated slots 54, 56 are not intended to be located at the upper position of the corner of the room, but instead, extend to a position intermediate floor 20 and the ceiling of the room.

Further, Armbruster does not disclose that when the Air clean apparatus is installed, a given quantity of circulating blowing air, which is decided according to the height from the floor underneath the air intake and the underside of open area determined on the basis of particles of the maximum size to be eliminated at the air intake, as recited in claim 1.

With regards to claim 4, contrary to the Office Action assertion, Armbruster is completely silent as to whether both sides of the Air clean apparatus are configured to have a width of at least 180 mm, and a height of 2,000 mm or less, as recited in claim 4.

Accordingly, Armbruster does not literally disclose each and every feature of Applicants' claimed invention, as recited in claim 1 or of claims 3 and 4 for that matter, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 is inappropriate. Further, for the reasons discussed, Armbruster does not suggest the features as recited in claim 1.

Because Armbruster does not anticipate or suggest the features of claim 1, Armbruster cannot possibly anticipate or suggest the subject matter of claims 3 and 4, which depend from claim 1, for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein, such as discussed with respect to claim 4. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Also on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Wetzel, U.S. Patent No. 5,255,167. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Wetzel fails to disclose an air intake intended to be located at a lower position of a corner of a room and an air outlet intended to be located at an upper position of the corner of a room. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of Wetzel, the room air sterilizer 10 is mounted near a window 13 or other wall penetrations (col. 2, lines 58-59).

Also, Wetzel fails to disclose that when the air clean apparatus is installed, a given quantity of circulating blowing air, which is decided according to the height from the floor underneath the air intake and the underside open area determined on the basis of particles of

the maximum size to be eliminated at the air intake, as recited in claim 1. As Wetzel describes, an expandable sleeve portion 17 allows the overall length of the housing 11 to be adjusted to fit the floor-to-ceiling distance of the room (col. 3, lines 1-3). As Wetzel further describes, the lower end of the housing can extend to a manifold within a false floor of the room, rather than terminate above the floor (col. 4, lines 15-17). Thus, Wetzel does not disclose that the given quantity of circulating blowing air is decided according to the height from the floor underneath the air intake and the underside open area determined on the basis of the particles of the maximum size to be eliminated at the air intake.

Further, contrary to the Office Action assertion with regards to claim 4, Wetzel does not disclose that both sides of the air clean apparatus are configured to have a width of at least 180 mm, and a height of 2,000 mm or less. In Wetzel, the overall length of the housing is adjusted to fit the floor-to-ceiling distance of the room. For most rooms that is at least 8 ft., which equals approximately 2440 mm. Thus, Wetzel does not disclose the features as recited in claim 4.

Accordingly, Wetzel does not literally disclose each and every feature of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claim 1, or in claim 4, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 is inappropriate. Further, for the reasons discussed, Wetzel does not suggest the features as recited in claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Armbruster in view of Yu, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0010211. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Yu fails to overcome the deficiencies of Armbruster as applied to claim 2 for at least the reasons discussed below.

As admitted by the Office Action, Armbruster is silent as to a photocatalytic filter having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean

apparatus main body. Armbruster also fails to disclose that the air outlet is provided in the vicinity of the upper portion of the air clean apparatus for, at least, the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. As described above, Armbruster has elongated slots 54, 56, which extend from the base 16 to a position intermediate floor 20 and the ceiling of the room (col. 3, lines 62-64).

Contrary to the Office Action assertion, Yu fails to disclose an air purifier having an elongated shape in the direction from a floor to a ceiling. As Yu describes, the air purifier as shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3, includes a shell body 1 that is arranged with an accommodated space 10 inside thereof (paragraph [0021]). Accordingly, Yu does not disclose an air purifier having an elongated shape in the direction from a floor to a ceiling because Yu expressly describes the air purifier has a shell body.

Also, Yu does not disclose a photocatalytic filter upstream of the blower having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body. As Yu describes, inside the accommodated space 10, the arrangement of elements in sequence is a fore electricity-conducting plate 3, an ionizing device 92, a metal filtering net 4, and a rear electricity-conducting plate 7 (paragraph [0021]). The metal filtering net 4 of Yu is not an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body. Instead, the metal filtering net 4 has a rectangular shape (Figs. 1 and 3).

Furthermore, the metal filtering net 4 is not arranged between the anterior filter and the blower, as recited in claim 2. Instead, the metal filtering net 4 is arranged after the fan 2 (Fig. 4).

Accordingly, the alleged combination of Armbruster and Yu does not suggest each and every feature of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claim 2 and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is inappropriate.

Because the alleged combination of Armbuster and Yu does not disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 2, the alleged combination cannot suggest claim 5 for that reason and for the additional features recited therein. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

On page 4 of the Office Action, claims 2 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Wetzel in view of Yu. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As admitted by the Office Action, Wetzel fails to disclose or suggest a photocatalytic filter having an elongated shape extending in a direction along the longitudinal axis of the air clean apparatus main body.

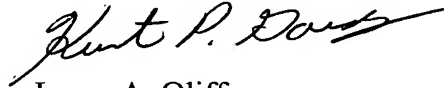
Yu fails to overcome the deficiencies of Wetzel as applied to claim 2, for at least the same reasons as discussed above.

Because the alleged combination of Wetzel and Yu does not disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 2, the alleged combination cannot suggest claim 5 for that reason and for the additional features therein. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Amended Abstract
Replacement Sheets (3)

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